## Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, EEWT, UR

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH ROBERT ROOSA IN MOSCOW NEWS

1. APRIL 30 ISSUE OF MOSCOW NEWS PUBLISHES "EXCLUSIVE" INTERVIEW WITH ROBERT ROOSA, IN WHICH ROOSA REFERS TO DESIRABILITY OF FACILITATING TRADE THROUGH ESTABLISHMENT OF SOVIET BANKING PRESENCE IN NEW YORK. ARTICLE QUOTES ROOSA AS ADDING "GETTING THAT GOING IS ITSELF GOING TO BE A KIND OF CATALYST THAT WILL THEN INFLUENCE SOME OF OUR LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK."

2. IN RESPONSE TO INTERVIEWER'S QUESTIONS, ROOSA IS QUOTED AS STATING THAT REPEAL OF JACKSON/VANIK AMENDMENT WILL REQUIRE AN IMPROVEMENT IN OVERALL ATMOSPHERE. "IF WE GET AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE TRADING SIDE, ALONG WITH A CLEAR ADVANCE IN THE SALT, THIS COMBINATION CAN BE OF OVERWHELMING INFLUENCE ON THE STATE OF MIND IN CONGRESS." ROOSA IS ALSO QUOTED AS STATING THAT BUSINESSMEN OF WHOM HE HAS KNOWLEDGE REGARD AMENDMENT AS A NUISANCE AND FEEL THEY WOULD BE BETTER SERVED IF IT WERE NOT THERE. ASKED IF PART OF US BUSINESS COMMUNITY DID NOT FAIL TO UNDERSTAND NEED TO DEVELOP US-SOVIET TRADE, ROOOSA ACKNOWLEDGED SOME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUCH FEELING BUT STATED THAT THERE IS VERY WIDE RECOGNITION IN US OF GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR PROFITABLE BUSINESS.

3. COMMENT: SOVIETS SELDOM MISS CHANCE TO TRY TO QUOTE IMPORTANT US BUSINESS FIGURES TO THEIR OWN ADVNATAGE ON JACKSON/VANIK AMENDMENT PROBLEM AND TO SEEK TO ELICIT IMPLIED CRITICISM OF US POLICY. IN THIS CASE, ROOSA

REALISTICALLY TIED "REPEAL" OF THE AMENDMENT TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE OVERALL ATMOSPHERE ALTHOUGH HIS QUOTED REFERENCE TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN "THE TRADING SIDE" HAVING A GREAT IMPACT ON CONGRESS IS PUZZLING AND WE WONDER IF IT MAY HAVE BEEN A GARBLE OF WHAT HE REALLY SAID. WE HOPE THAT IN THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH US BUSINESSMEN SOVIETS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO OVERLOOK FACT THAT FAVORABLE RESOLUTION OF TRADE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH JACKSON/VANIK AND STEVENSON AMENDMENTS DEPENDS IN PART ON SOVIET BEHAVIOR. TOON

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